Study on viral fever in Kerala

653. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether studies had been convened in Kerala during year 2007 regarding viral fever outbreak;

(b) if so, the details including numbers of people affected and lost life, district-wise and category-wise:

(c) the details of virus load that are unusually more, if any, in various parts of Kerala;

(d) if so, the reasons for high load of virus and the remedial measures taken/to be taken;

(e) whether steps would be taken to provide financial assistance from the Central Government to families that are affected by high fever during year 2007; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Central teams from Ministry of Health and Family Welfare have been deputed for investigation of febrile illness in the State of Kerala. The State of Kerala has reported 22135 cases of suspected Chikungunya fever and no death during 2007 (upto 12th August). District-wise details are given in Statement-I (*See* below). State has also reported 494 cases and 8 deaths due to dengue fever in 2007. District-wise details are given in Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) Total 559 cases found positive for Chikungunya Virus and 494 cases positive for Dengue virus.

(d) to (f) High density of vector mosquito due to conducive climatic condition is resulting high transmission of Chikungunya fever in the State. Community has been advised to take personal protection measures to avoid mosquito bite. The State has been suggested to use bednets in the hospitals to prevent transmission of infection from patients infected with Chikungunya virus.

Government of India had released additional fund of Rs. 2.21 crore to the State during 2006-07 as emergency package for prevention and control activities of Chikungunya for the purchase of Fogging Machines, Pyrethrum Extract (2%), Temephos, Insecticide treated bednets and for conducting IEC activities. Similarly, in 2007-08, Rs. 4.04 crore has been released to the State as emergency package, for purchase of Pyrethrum Extract (2%), Temephos and social mobilization of community to undertake source reduction in domestic and peri-domestic areas.

Statement-I

Suspected Chikungunya cases reported by the Kerala State during 2007 *(till 12th August)*

Sl. No.	District	Suspected Chikungunya Cases	No. of Samples tested	No. of confirmed cases	No. of deaths
1.	Thiruvananthapuram	1195	258	42	0
2.	Kollam	917	417	90	0
3.	Pathanamthitta	3453	1879	80	0
4.	Alappuzha	1325	238	59	0
5.	Kottayam	10655	417	111	0
6.	Idukki	535	169	25	0
7.	Ernakulam	1800	130	65	0
8.	Trichur	298	56	19	0
9.	Palakkad	183	27	3	0
10.	Malappuram	973	90	9	0
11.	Kozhikode	649	164	41	0
12.	Wayanad	51	47	10	0
13.	Kannur	27	4	2	0
14.	Kasargode	74	23	3	0
15.	Others	0			0
	TOTAL:	22135	3919	559	0

Statement-II

Dengue cases and deaths reported by the Kerala State during 2007 *(till 12th August)*

District	Cases	Death
1	2	3
Kottayam	44	3
Idukki	15	1
Ernakulam	15	0
Thiruvananthapuram	227	0
Trissure	60	0
Pallakad	4	0

1	2	3
Malappuram	3	0
Kasaragod	3	0
Wyanad	22	0
Kannur	6	0
Kozhikode	24	0
Kollam	56	4
Alappuzha	6	0
Pathanamthitta	9	0
TOTAL:	494	8

Small scale drug manufacturers

654. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the revised Schedule 'M' has been made uniform for large, medium and small scale sectors and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government are aware of the problems being faced by small scale drug manufacturing units and whether they have received representations from the representatives of various units;

(c) if so, what action has been taken to amend the Schedule 'M';

(d) whether Government also have received representations to grant these units tax exemptions uniformly as given in certain States; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Schedule M to the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945, prescribes the requirement of Good Manufacturing Practices and requirements of premises, plant and equipment to be followed by all drug manufacturing units licensed under the said rules, to ensure that uniform standards are maintained by the drug manufacturers in the country and drugs of standard quality are available to the public.

(b) and (c) Representations from various manufacturers' association including small scale manufacturers were received and after due consideration schedule M was further amended by the Government on 30-6-2005 *vide* GSR No.431(E) and relaxation were given.

(d) and (e) Grant of Tax exemptions to the manufacturing units for encouraging growth of industries is area specific and available in certain States.